North American Invitational Model United Nations

NAIMUN

Delegate Training Guide

A Georgetown International Relations Association, Inc. Conference

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A Letter to Delegates

Dear Delegates,

It is our absolute pleasure to welcome you all to the North American Invitational Model United Nations Conference (NAIMUN). We are incredibly excited to build on the tradition of substantive excellence cultivated over the past several decades. NAIMUN is a conference like no other that offers an unparalleled delegate experience in and out of the committee room.

We firmly believe that NAIMUN offers delegates an enriching educational experience — an opportunity to tackle the most challenging and complex international topics of the past and present. NAIMUN provides delegates a platform to cultivate research and public speaking skills, enhance negotiation abilities, practice creative problem solving, and interact with delegates from around the world. While NAIMUN, and Model UN in general, can be very exciting, it can also be challenging and at times confusing for first-time delegates. For that reason, we have put together a "Guide to Model United Nations" that details all the specifics needed to know to excel in a MUN committee. Even for our more experienced delegates, this is a great opportunity to study specific topics.

Enclosed you will find a training guide on all aspects of Model UN, from parliamentary procedure to tips and tricks on how to succeed. It is our sincere hope that, when you leave NAIMUN, you will emerge more knowledgeable not only about the world, but also about how to successfully compete in Model UN.

We hope that you use this information in tandem with the substantive materials found in your committee-specific background guides in order to prepare for NAIMUN. If you have any further questions, you can refer to our virtual training materials which include videos that cover the topics discussed in this guide, which can be found on the NAIMUN website. We wish you all the best of luck, and cannot wait to see everyone in February!

Hoya Saxa,

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Chapter 1
Types of Committees

Model UN committees can typically be broken down into three types of committees: General Assemblies (GA), Economic and Social Councils (ECOSOC), and Crisis Committees.

General Assemblies

General Assemblies are the largest committees found at any Model UN conference, and generally simulate actual United Nations General Assembly Committees, such as the Committee for Disarmament and International Security (DISEC). In these large committees, all countries are represented, and they focus on two specific policy issues that the delegates must craft a resolution to address. General Assemblies can and have, however, simulated non-UN organizations with broad global membership, such as the World Trade Organization, or specific legislative bodies, such as the Tunisian National Assembly. Ultimately, the size of the committee distinguishes GAs from the rest of a conference's numerous organs and committees.

ECOSOCs

ECOSOCs, while generally smaller than GAs, can vary greatly in size. At NAIMUN, ECOSOCs range from 50 up to almost 200 delegates. ECOSOCs, like GAs, seek to craft a resolution to solve international issues that generally center on regional, economic, social, and cultural issues. ECOSOCs can simulate real-world UN organizations, such as the UN Commission on the Status of Women (CSW), or other national/regional bodies such as the British House of Commons.

Crisis Committees

Crisis Committees are markedly different from both GAs and ECOSOCs. They tend to focus on specific issues, geographic areas, and historical periods. For example, the Court of Louis XIV, 1665 simulates the early years of King Louis XIV's personal reign, tackling issues from the international expansion of the French empire to developing domestic institutions. In essence, crisis committees have a narrower and more specific focus, while GAs and ECOSOCs focus on broad global concepts and issues. Crisis committees also have the distinguishing characteristic of portfolio powers, where delegates have and can use individual powers that are part of their bio in order to shape the "world" they interact in. Crisis committees also include crisis updates, which are unplanned "crises" that delegates must resolve through debate and directives. Last, crisis committees are the smallest of committees, usually with less than 30 delegates per committee. They tend to be faster-paced and more dynamic than assemblies with set topics.

These three types of committees are split across six different organs. Each organ will house anywhere from five to eight distinct committees, divided based on committee type or time period. Below is a list of the six organs found at NAIMUN:

- **General Assemblies (GAs):** This organ is by far the largest at NAIMUN, holding seven distinct GA-style committees. All of these committees are members of the United Nations.
- **Economic and Social Councils (ECOSOCs):** This organ has eight ECOSOC-style committees. While some are United Nations committees, others are more regionally focused.
- **Historical Crisis:** The Historical Crisis organ includes seven crisis committees that cover a wide variety of regions, and cover important historical events that are still relevant to current affairs today.
- **Contemporary Crisis:** In this organ, there are seven crisis committees that allow delegates to explore important issues in the present day.
- **Non-Traditionals:** This organ includes seven unique committees, which include crisis committees and others that stray from the standard three types of committees. These special committees include the Press Corps and the International Court of Justice (ICJ), which follow a unique strand of parliamentary procedure.
- **National Security Apparatus (NSA):** This organ includes five coordinated crisis committees, which include individual and joint crisis elements. The only one of its kind on the high school circuit, the organ's five committees all exist within the same universe.

Because of the differences between crisis committees and traditional Model UN simulations, and the similarity between GAs and ECOSOCs, we have divided this guide into two parts, each with different tips and procedures. However, despite their differences, all kinds of committees require the same basic set of skills (diplomacy, consensus-building, strong public speaking, research, etc).

Chapter 2
Who's Who in Model UN?

When competing at a conference, you will certainly run into various staffers with different positions in the conference. In order to utilize all the resources available to you, it is important to know who exactly you're speaking to when asking questions about the conference or seeking help.

Senior Staff

The conference's leadership staff is divided into the Substantive Side and the Executive Side. The Substantive Side is responsible for preparing the committees to be run at the conference and ensuring that those committees are of the highest quality for the delegates. The Executive Side is responsible for non-debate related elements of the conference, from social events to marketing to philanthropy. While you may not see Executive Side staffers that often in committee, they are instrumental in enhancing the overall experience of each and every conference.

You can find information about your Executives on the NAIMUN website: naimun.modelun.org/executives. You can find information about your Secretariat on the NAIMUN website: naimun.modelun.org/secretariat.

The Senior Staffers that are most involved in the Substantive Side of the conference are listed below.

- **Secretary-General:** Leading the Substantive Side, the Secretary-General (SG) is responsible for coordinating the Under-Secretaries-General (USGs) in order to ensure the committees in each organ are developed and run properly and smoothly. Tasks for the SG could range from solving substantive issues committees confront to managing staff issues amongst the organs and committees.
- **Director-General:** The principal substantive advisor to the Secretary-General, the Director-General (DG) is responsible for aiding and assisting the SG in the substantive issues the SG confronts, including the topics and structure of the conference's committees. The SG and DG work together to ensure committees are structurally sound and engaging for the delegates.
- **Under-Secretary-General:** Each of the six organs at NAIMUN has two Under-Secretaries-General. These Senior Staff members work in tandem to make sure the committees in their respective organs are organized and run smoothly. They are responsible for helping to facilitate the formation of each of their committees.

General Staff

General Staff members are the Georgetown University students you see running the committees at the conference. Many of these staffers introduced original ideas for the conference's committees. You will be interacting with these staffers the most during the conference.

- **Chair:** The Chair is responsible for regulating the course of debate in each committee, and will be the staffer you interact with the most.
- **Director:** The Chair's principal aide, the Director ensures that debate flows smoothly and productively. Directors can be found in GAs, ECOSOCs, and crisis committees.
- **Rapporteurs:** Rapporteurs staff GAs and ECOSOCs and primarily assist them in the course of debate. Rapporteurs, along with the Chair and the Director, make up the Dais in GAs and ECOSOCs.
- **Crisis Manager:** The Crisis Manager (CM) appears only in crisis committees with the primary task of constructing the "story-arc" for events that occur in crisis committees. Additionally, the CM helps process the notes and directives delegates in the committee produce.
- **Crisis Analysts:** Crisis Analysts (CAs) are responsible for helping the CM run the crisis arc of the committee, produce crisis updates, and process the notes and directives from committee. They can only be found in crisis committees. The CAs combined with the crisis manager make up the crisis staff.

Chapter 3
Position Papers

Prior to the conference, delegates will be asked to write a "position paper" based on the topics presented in their background guides. The Position Paper is the pinnacle of the preparation process for any Model United Nations conference, representing the view of your state or position on the particular issues your council is addressing. Remember, the guidelines for position papers may differ depending on the committee you are in: check your background guide and email your Chair in order to confirm the specific parameters of your position paper. Position papers are required for all delegates. **Any delegate who does not submit a position paper will be ineligible to receive an award. Position papers must be submitted by the end of the first committee session (Thursday night).** Position papers may be sent to the specific committee email or handed in physically to the Chair during the first committee session. If you would like position papers to be graded with feedback, however, they must be submitted physically to your Chair by the end of the first committee session.

Position papers will require in-depth research on both the country/position you are representing as well as the topics being discussed in the committee. For UN-based committees, begin by researching the basic information about your country. The CIA Factbook offers information on the history, people, government, economy, geography, communications, transportation, military, and transnational issues for most countries and dependencies. Think about how factors such as gross domestic product (GDP), demographics, and geography influence your country's foreign policy. Use the Factbook and other such sites to consider the economic, political, social, religious, or ideological motivations that influence your country's foreign policy as a whole and particularly its position on the topics at hand. For crisis and other non-UN committees, make sure you understand your character's position. Do they represent a political party, nation, or group of people? What job does this person have, and what work have they done in the past? It's extremely important to look at the background guides in order to understand your position's portfolio powers, or what it is that you have control over in the context of your committee.

After looking at your position in particular, look at the greater community. For committees set in the present, keep up-to-date with current events, by following outlets such as CNN, BBC, or The New York Times, among others. Many NAIMUN committees tackle issues that are ever evolving, so a situation may change drastically between the time the background guide was written and the time of the conference. Although it is helpful to start with traditional sources, branch out to unexpected research material. Check the Economist, Foreign Policy, and Foreign Affairs as well as other periodicals and journals. It can also be useful to seek out material originating in the country you are representing. The governments of most countries have an official website, which can be a valuable repository for news, draft policies, or press releases. You can even contact their respective embassy via email or by phone to get very valuable and exclusive information for your position paper!

Position Paper Structure

- One page single-spaced, roughly, for each topic
- A header with the DELEGATE NAME(S), POSITION, COMMITTEE, AND SCHOOL
- The topic name clearly stated

Recommended structure with three paragraphs per topic:

- The **first paragraph** should be an introduction to the topic from the perspective of your position. What is the history of the issue according to your nation? Why is this issue important? This is the shortest and least important section of the position paper.
- The **second paragraph** should be an analysis of the topic from your country's perspective as well as a multilateral perspective. What does your nation generally think about the issue? What policies have worked and not worked in the past on a national and international scale? This is most likely the longest part of the position paper and the place in which you will utilize most of your research.
- The **third paragraph** should be a discussion of solutions that you are proposing to solve the problem. What are these solutions? Why and how would they work? How will you solve any problems that might arise in implementing these solutions? This is where you can let your creativity and research combine, and begin formulating the kinds of proposals that will later come to fruition in your resolutions. These solutions do not necessarily have to come directly from your nation or position, though it is encouraged.

In addition to this, we have specific formatting guidelines for position papers. They must be in MLA or Chicago style formatting, including a Works Cited/Bibliography with either parenthetical or footnote citations. (Note: Works Cited do not count in the one page requirement per topic.) Position Papers must also be in 12-point Times New Roman font and include a header with the delegate name(s), nation, committee, and school. For GA and ECOSOC committees, each topic must be at minimum one page single-spaced. (Note: All committees have more than one topic). On the other hand, position papers for crisis committees will be slightly different. This is primarily because large, traditional committees have defined topics whereas crisis committees have more general topic areas that could be explored but are not as defined. Each delegate must submit a two-page, single-spaced document that explains the situation at hand, potential solutions to the topics, and what the delegate will advocate during the committee. Delegates do NOT need to describe their crisis arc or other individual plans, though they may if they wish to.

Some committees have modified requirements for Position Papers. Please check your committee's background guide to see if this is the case. For double delegations, each delegate does not have to submit their own position paper, and instead one paper should be submitted for both delegates. Please note that if a delegation has more than one delegate or double delegate pair in the same committee, each must submit their own Position Paper. For example, if one delegation were assigned two different countries in DISEC, then each of those countries would have to write their own Position Paper. Additionally, if a delegation were assigned two distinct characters in any other single-delegate committee, each of those delegates would have to write their own Position Paper.

Below is a sample position paper which delegates can use for reference, based on the delegate of the United Kingdom in DISEC. Notice the structure, the clear language, and the reasonable yet creative solutions put forth. The entry for topic A is what is expected in a position paper, while the entry for topic B exemplifies going above and beyond.

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Topic A: Foreign Military Bases

As one of the relatively few countries with active military bases in foreign countries, the United Kingdom is intimately aware of their significance on the world stage.(1) As the number of military bases operated by P5 countries diminished since the Cold War, more countries have entered into agreements to operate their own, such as China, India, Pakistan, and Turkey. As more and more states seek to expand their influence in the form of military bases, it is the First Committee's responsibility to establish reasonable guidelines in order to ensure uniformity among the agreements that will take form in the coming years. In the meantime, it is worth addressing some of the concerns of the global movement against foreign military bases of any kind, by increasing international transparency and specifying the legal frameworks under which military personnel can be held responsible.

The North Atlantic Treaty Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA), which includes the UK and 28 other member states, is the first and only multilateral agreement of its kind and therefore acts as a model for other legislations. Its first article sets forth a number of useful definitions that will help to standardize future agreements. (2) Though there are bilateral agreements, such as the US-Japan SOFA, they have certain issues that the First Committee should address in setting up guidelines for future agreements. For example, in the aforementioned agreement, US military personnel are subject to US laws while in Japan, which has created a great deal of friction with local authorities and has even led to increased death via traffic accidents due to American drivers only needing a military permit to drive on Japanese streets. Servicemembers should be held accountable for breaking the laws of the host country, and that process should be stipulated in the SOFA. Article VII of the NATO SOFA states that "the authorities of the receiving State shall have jurisdiction over the members of a force or civilian component and their dependents with respect to offenses committed within the territory of the receiving State and punishable by the law of that State."(3) A similar clause should appear in a DISEC resolution addressing future guidelines for status of forces agreements.

The UK does not support a cap on foreign military bases and would like to see the expansion of mutually beneficial agreements across the world. With this, transparency between countries in a bilateral agreement as well as among the international community is essential. The UK advocates for an independent body to be established by the First Committee, constituted of representatives of neutral UN member states, to monitor the conditions of foreign military bases and ensure that the regulations of their founding agreements are followed. This body may also listen to any concerns that the host nations may have in order to facilitate communication and solve problems before they become exacerbated. This body will also oversee a comprehensive database of foreign military bases across the world and the agreements that lead to their creation, in order to streamline its work. Since there are many different kinds of SOFAs, the UK would create a detailed tier system to classify foreign military bases by size, while also providing qualifiers for various other characteristics—this system would also include ways to classify SOFAs that do not establish foreign military bases, such as the US-Iraq agreement that established the American withdrawal of troops in 2011.(4)

(1) "The Status and Location of the Military Installations of the Member States of the European Union" (PDF). Policy Department External Policies: 13–14. February 2009. Retrieved 4 November 2018.

(2) "Status of Forces Agreement (SOFA): What Is It, and How Has It Been Utilized?" EveryCRSReport. com, Congressional Research Service, 15 Mar. 2012, www.everycrsreport.com/reports/RL32453. html.

(3) "Agreement between the Parties to the North Atlantic Treaty Regarding the Status of Their Forces." NATO, North Atlantic Treaty Organization, 14 Oct. 2009, nato.int/cps/en/natohq/official_ texts_17265.htm.

(4) Isaacs, John, and Travis Sharpe. "How Comfortable Is the U.S.-Iraq SOFA?" Arms Control Center, Center for Arms Control and Non-Proliferation, 24 Nov. 2008, armscontrolcenter.org/how-comfortable-is-the-u-s-iraq-sofa/.

Topic B: Treatment of War Prisoners

The United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland has a 438 page-long briefing for all UK Armed Forces interacting with Captured Persons (CPERS – one category of which is Prisoners of War, or POWs) under British authority, the Joint Doctrine Publication on Captured Persons.(1) This exceptionally detailed series of policy ensure that the United Kingdom follows all international standards for treatment of prisoners, and more. Extensive training is required for all armed forces, and the atrocities of places like Abu Ghraib are utilized as examples for shaping the conduct of commanders and thus the culture of respect needed to follow the Geneva Convention. The United Kingdom firmly believes in the necessity for each member state of the United Nations to similarly establish and clarify the connections between internal procedures and international law. Through transparent training and regulations that are internationally available and accessed, reviewed, and given recommendations by the International Committee of the Red Cross, all member states can ensure their armed forces behave in an informed and respectful nature.

The changing nature of warfare in the modern era has changed the nature of CPERS and therefore the relevancy of the Geneva Convention. Due to light footprint warfare, the number of irregular combatants has increased. With warfare shifting away from state-to-state warfare, the number of CPERS who the Geneva Convention protects has decreased. The United Kingdom believes that a particularly concerning failure in the Geneva Convention is the massive exception of POWs accused of war crimes or crimes against humanity. It is the position of the United Kingdom that those accused of being war criminals and non-traditional combatants should be classified outside of traditional POWs and civilians into a modern protection, potentially set forth into international law through a Fifth Geneva Convention. The previous conventions do not have the specific language needed to ensure nations do not circumvent the nature of the law in places such as Guantanamo.

Nonetheless, even with the actual implementation of international law in each nation, the legal statutes currently outlined in the Geneva Convention as well as individual nations' mandates are thus lacking, with several loopholes. One of these is that many safeties and rights retained by CPERS do not apply to those detained or arrested domestically or in territorial/internal waters. These gaps mean that national law instead of international humanitarian law takes precedence, allowing for dangerous ambiguity. Additional areas for improvement include explicit language for Vulnerable CPERS,

defined by the United Kingdom as "an individual who by reason of mental or other disability, age or illness, is or may be unable to take care of himself or is unable to protect himself against significant harm or exploitation or is dependent on others for assistance in the performance of basic physical functions." Those with disabilities or other identity-based differences from other CPERS and/or the armed forces overseeing the CPER face undue neglect and abuse. Language must be added to Geneva Convention protections to include brainwashing as a form of abuse, laying out explicit timelines for release upon cessation of conflict, and international repercussions for a failure to follow these standards. Videography and photography of CPERS should additionally be banned, except for proof of life or communication outside of pressures of coercion that may be released to the government of the nation of origin of the CPER and, through the government, their families. This can ensure that CPERS are not used as political tools to exert pressure on nations of origin towards the cessation of a conflict, as well as to respect the privacy of the CPER.

From a pragmatic perspective, it is necessary for the United Nations to initiate connections between Non-Governmental Organizations and nations overseeing the care of CPERS. This allows for an impartial presence to provide medical treatment without cost to the host nation, including often underserved medical needs such as mental and dental care. The UN Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture and other Cruel, Inhuman or Degrading Treatment or Punishment is limited in the failure of ratification on the part of twenty-six countries worldwide, including some which have come under fire for human rights abuses in recent years.(3) This subcommittee must be empowered by an increased emphasis on the part of the United Nations to encourage non-signatories to sign on, removing term limits for experts which can cripple their ability to create lasting change. Additionally, by collaborating with other multilateral organizations with mutual defense provisions, such as NATO, this solution would be bolstered further by increased accountability.

(1) Joint Doctrine Publication 1-10, 3rd Edition, Captured Persons (CPERS). Ministry of Defense of the United Kingdom of Great Britain and Northern Ireland, Chiefs of Staffs. January 2015. https://assets.publishing.service.gov.uk/government/uploads/system/uploads/attachment_data/file/455589/20150820-JDP_1_10_Ed_3_Ch_1_Secured.pdf
(2) "Who Is a Vulnerable Adult?" Western Bay Safeguarding Boards. http://www.wbsb.co.uk/4482
(3) "Subcommittee on Prevention of Torture," International Justice Resource Center. https://ijrcenter.org/un-treaty-bodies/subcommittee-on-prevention-of-torture/

Chapter 4
GAs and ECOSOCs (Large Committees): The Course of Debate

Below is a detailed description of GAs and ECOSOCs. This section will help to guide you from the beginning to end of such committees so that you have a better grasp on the dynamics and expectations of these committees come conference time.

Each committee session, the Chair will take a **roll call** for each country/representative in the committee. When your position is called on, you can either vote as "present" or "present and voting", the latter of which will require you to vote "yes" or "no" in any subsequent votes. It is important to note that you MUST attend each committee session in order to be considered for an award, barring extenuating circumstances like illness or travel delays. If you plan on missing a session, contact your Chair via email which can be found on your committee's page on the NAIMUN website as soon as possible.

During the first committee session, the Chair will introduce both him/herself as well as the rest of the Dais. After taking roll call, the Chair will open the floor to points or motions from the committee. The Chair will almost always look to open a **Primary Speaker's List** to allow delegates to debate which topic the committee should discuss. Typically, committees will not have the time to address all topics introduced in the background guide. The **Speaker's List** is, quite literally, a running list of nations/persons that wish to speak. Speaker's Lists are opened at the beginning of the committee, and give the delegates the opportunity to speak freely about the topics to be discussed by the committee for the duration of the conference. To be placed on the Speaker's List, a delegate needs only raise the placard and continue to do so until the Chair places that delegate on the list. Delegates generally get to speak only once during the opening Speaker's List, but can attempt to add their name back on the list if the Chair either reopens the list or if the delegate sends a note to the Dais asking to be placed on the list.

Because the background guides for these committees often present two to three topics the committee can choose to address, the Chair will want to see debate about the topics presented. The following series of speeches present the first opportunity for substantive debate and give delegates an opportunity to explain why one topic merits particular attention. Such speeches are wonderful opportunities to make your presence known to the committee.

Either delegates or the Chair will push to end debate and take a vote on the topic to be discussed for the committee. Many times, the Chair will present an opportunity for last speakers to support whichever topic they want to see chosen. The Chair will generally have a time-frame in mind for how long he/she wants the Speaker's List to last and will push for a **Motion to Set the Agenda**, whereby a simple majority is needed to determine the order of the topics. **In essence, the primary goal of the first committee session is to set the agenda on which topic to discuss.**

Once the topic is chosen, the Chair will open a **Secondary Speaker's List** to initiate formal debate on the selected topic. The first speeches will be used to convey the particular views, goals and solutions delegates are seeking so that like-minded delegates can choose to work together. After a series of these speeches, delegates may seek to enter two different types of caucuses:

Moderated Caucus

A regulated, time-limited debate focusing on a specific aspect of the topic at hand, from addressing a certain crisis to discussion of a working paper. To motion for such a caucus, the delegate must state the time allocated for the caucus, the speaking time per speaker, and the topic the delegate wishes to see discussed. A simple majority is required to pass the motion, and the delegate who originally submits the passed motion may choose to speak first or last in the moderated caucus. After that, the Chair will call on other delegates who are raising their placard to speak.

E.g. "Motion for a 9 minute moderated caucus with a 45 second speaking time to discuss the effect of climate change on immigrant communities."

Unmoderated Caucus

A time-constrained but unregulated debate. During an Unmoderated Caucus, delegates are free to move about inside (or outside) the committee room and to discuss the topic of the unmoderated caucus. Unmoderated caucuses are often used to build coalitions for resolution-writing, merge working papers, or craft directives (in crisis committees). To motion for an unmoderated caucus, the delegate must state the desired allocated time of the unmoderated caucus. No topic is required for an unmoderated caucus. A simple majority is required for such a motion to pass.

E.g. "Motion for a 10 minute unmoderated caucus."

In addition to these, throughout the conference will have the opportunity to make certain points if necessary. Here are a list of the points that can be made:

- **Point of Order:** A tool to point out a discrepancy in parliamentary procedure or another delegate's actions. A Point of Order may interrupt a speaker. Ex. "Point of Order? The delegate is discussing resolution 3, but only 1 and 2 have been presented."
- **Point of Parliamentary Inquiry:** An tool to clarify a motion made, a vote up for consideration, or any other step of parliamentary procedure. A Point of Parliamentary Inquiry may not interrupt a speaker. Ex. "Point of Parliamentary Inquiry? Are we voting on Resolution 1.2 or 1.4?"
- **Point of Personal Privilege:** A tool to express personal discomfort that interferes with his/her ability to participate in debate; the Chair will work to alleviate the situation. A Point of Personal Privilege may not interrupt a speaker. Ex. "Point of Personal Privilege? Can the Dais please speak up? We can't hear the Chair in the back."

Moderated caucuses are a great way to hear the ideas of your peers and see whose ideas align with your own. Usually the Chair will require several moderated caucuses to occur before delegates are allowed to enter unmoderated caucuses. Once this first motion for an unmoderated caucus is passed, delegates will pool together to discover common ground with others, most often centering around some of the more notable speakers from previous speeches. However, these groups are often preliminary and are in no way the permanent blocs that will form. Blocs tend to solidify by the second or third committee session.

Once the first unmoderated caucus is concluded, the Chair will usually look for a moderated caucus to hear some of the ideas being discussed as well as some of the groups that have formed. Debate will usually ensue centering around the competing ideas of different blocs, and it is important to recognize which particular ideas are being discussed among the committee the most. Doing so will usually provide you with a somewhat accurate gauge of who is leading the committee.

From here, there is no clear trajectory for debate. Delegates may motion for moderated caucuses to continue debating other specific aspects of the overall topic or unmoderated caucuses to continue crafting their ideas into working papers. What happens is largely at the Chair's discretion, who will push for the most efficient way to work towards the eventual introduction of working papers to the committee. **Working papers** are formal documents that answer the topic being discussed and debated. Potential resolutions crafted by the delegates are known as working papers. However, once they are submitted to the Chair, they are known as **draft resolutions**.

After a series of moderated and unmoderated caucuses, it is likely that different groups will have produced working papers. Debate takes on a more substantive tone, as delegates begin to elaborate on some of the ideas they have been hearing during caucusing, coming up with concrete proposals for turning them into action. Once again, the exact direction of committee at this juncture is largely up to the discretion of the Chair; he/she may seek for further moderated or unmoderated caucuses to facilitate further debate or the formation of more coherent blocs. Perhaps the most important takeaway here is that **once groups have enough support (measured in sponsors and signatories) for its working paper, these groups will most likely motion to introduce its working paper**.

A **sponsor** to a resolution is usually an original writer of the working paper or a delegate who strongly supports the working paper. In most GA's, one-fifth of the committee's signatures (sponsors and signatories combined) are required in order to present a working paper to the committee, though the amount of sponsors necessary can be left to the discretion of the Chair. Delegates are advised to pay attention to the benchmarks set by the Chair in order to present a working paper. On the other hand, a **signatory** to a resolution is a delegate that signs a resolution to indicate that delegate's interest in hearing the working paper presented to the committee. It does not, however, indicate the delegate necessarily supports the content of the working paper. **Working papers require 20% + 1 of the committee to sign on as signatories or sponsors.**

Once working papers are introduced, it is likely the Chair will suggest a **Question and Answer (Q&A) session** for each draft resolution. During this time, the main sponsors of each draft resolution have the opportunity to read their working paper to the committee, answering any questions other delegates may have. Q&A may seem like a relatively marginal moment in committee, but it is in fact a critical one in the eyes of the Dais. It is a rare opportunity for delegates to show who is truly leading their respective bloc; those leaders should be the ones who can sufficiently and knowledgeably answer the committee's questions or ask intelligent questions of their own. In essence, it is a phase in committee where the Dais can directly observe delegates and their bloc-leadership, something that is largely hidden during speech-giving and the chaotic nature that often accompanies unmoderated caucuses in large committees.

Once Q&A sessions are concluded, the committee usually motions for either an extended moderated

caucus or a series of moderated caucuses to discuss the pros and cons of each working paper. Typically, delegates tout the papers they have helped sponsor while critiquing the work of other groups. When the Dais is faced with either a large amount of working papers and/or draft resolutions that contain similar content, the Chair will most likely suggest that different groups consolidate their papers. At this point, delegates may push for unmoderated caucuses to do just that. Sometimes, rather than rewriting working papers, delegates will propose amendments to them, which can take place in two forms:
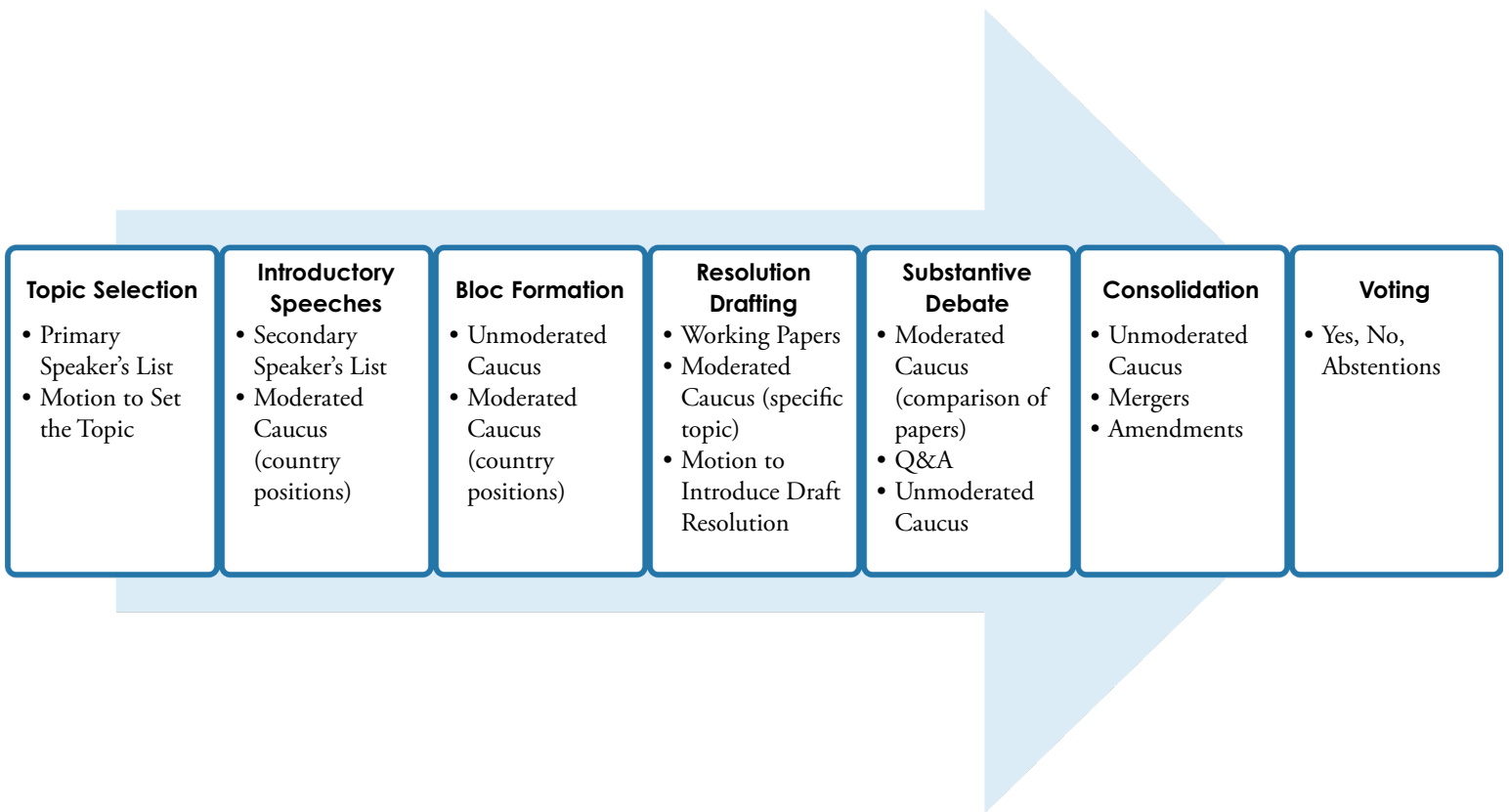
- **Friendly Amendments:** An amendment, generally speaking, changes a resolution by adding, striking out, or revising the text of a draft resolution. Amendments are offered primarily between when working papers are introduced and when they are voted upon. However, delegates can offer amendments during the caucusing process and the writing of the working paper. Once all sponsors agree to the amendment, the amendment is submitted to the Chair, read aloud, and is incorporated into the overall working paper/draft resolution.
- **Unfriendly Amendments:** An amendment that is not agreed upon by all sponsors of a resolution. Thus, an unfriendly amendment requires signatures of one-fifth of the committee before it can be submitted to the Dais. Unfriendly amendments, once submitted, are voted upon at the close of debate on the amendments' respective resolutions and then voted upon in the order of their submission. An unfriendly amendment requires two-thirds of the committee vote to pass. If passed, it is automatically incorporated into the draft resolution. These amendments cannot be amended.

Once the Chair is satisfied that enough consolidation has occurred, delegates may either seek further discussion or even push for a vote on each of the remaining working papers.

As soon as the committee enters voting procedure, the room is locked and amendments are no longer accepted. A draft resolution needs the majority of the committee's YES votes to pass; bear in mind delegates may vote "Yes", "No", or "Abstaining." However, abstentions do not change the required votes for a simple majority and can only be used by delegates who answered "Present," as opposed to "Present and Voting," when the roll was taken in the first committee session. Voting procedure continues until all working papers are either passed or rejected by committee, though delegates are free to make motions between votes.

Once all working papers have been voted on, the life cycle of GAs/ECOSOCs is concluded, and debate begins on the next topic through the same process. This summary is in no way a completely accurate description of the GA/ECOSOC process, as in many situations the flow of committee is determined either by the desires of the Chair or the progress of the delegates in the production of working papers/draft resolutions. However, it is our hope this description gives you a general idea of the course of GA/ECOSOC committees, providing you with a framework with which you can gauge the progress of the committee during debate.

Life Cycle of a GA/ECOSOC Committee

Topic Selection
- Primary Speaker's List
- Motion to Set the Topic

Introductory Speeches
- Secondary Speaker's List
- Moderated Caucus (country positions)

Bloc Formation
- Unmoderated Caucus
- Moderated Caucus (country positions)

Resolution Drafting
- Working Papers
- Moderated Caucus (specific topic)
- Motion to Introduce Draft Resolution

Substantive Debate
- Moderated Caucus (comparison of papers)
- Q&A
- Unmoderated Caucus

Consolidation
- Unmoderated Caucus
- Mergers
- Amendments

Voting
- Yes, No, Abstentions

Chapter 5
GAs and ECOSOCs (Large Committees): Resolutions

Speeches are of course an integral part of Model UN, but such speeches only serve as an intermediate step in the creation of documents that convey the goals and wishes of the committee. The goal of essentially every committee is to craft a document that answers the problem or issue confronting that committee. There are, however, other documents that also serve as key parts to the committee experience. To that end, it is important to understand what kinds of documents you will be presented with and that you will be writing.

Every GA and ECOSOC ultimately strives to develop and pass a **resolution** for a given topic. A resolution is a comprehensive (and usually long) document that seeks to address the numerous aspects of the general topic the committee has been discussing. Resolutions require a series of **preambulatory clauses** recounting the problem and previous actions taken and **operative clauses** outlining specific recommendations for resolving the problem. They look to answer a longstanding global problem that is often complex and will generally be split into several sections. Therefore, resolutions may take multiple sessions to craft and perfect.

Generally, resolutions will be split into two sections:

Preambulatory Clauses

The preamble of a resolution generally recounts the issue, the ongoing dynamics of the situation, and how the global community has tried (and either succeeded in some aspects or failed) to confront the problem. Below is a series of preambulatory phrases delegates can use to structure the preamble. Remember to begin each sentence of the preamble with one of these words/phrases and italicize it.

Affirming	*Expecting*	*Keeping in mind*
Alarmed by	*Fulfilling*	*Nothing further*
Aware of	*Fully alarmed*	*Noting with regret*
Bearing in mind	*Fully aware*	*Observing*
Cognizant of	*Fully believing*	*Realizing*
Confident	*Further deploring*	*Reaffirming*
Convinced	*Further recalling*	*Recalling*
Declaring	*Having adopted*	*Recognizing*
Deeply concerned	*Having considered*	*Referring*
Deeply disturbed	*Having examined*	*Remembering*
Deeply regretting	*Having heard*	*Seeking*
Desiring	*Having received*	*Taking note of*
Emphasizing	*Having studied*	*Welcoming*

Operative Clauses

The body of a resolution is structured with operating clauses and details how the organization plans on solving the issue. This is the crux of the resolution, where delegates should be concentrating most of their focus. Enclosed is a series of operative words that will help to structure your resolution. Again, remember to begin each sentence of the operative section with one of these words and underline it. To provide structure to your resolutions, make sure to number your clauses.

Accepts	Designates	Proclaims
Affirms	Emphasizes	Reaffirms
Approves	Encourages	Recommends
Authorizes	Endorses	Reminds
Calls for	Expresses its hope	Regrets
Calls upon	Further invites	Requests
Condemns	Further proclaims	Resolves
Congratulates	Further reminds	Solemnly affirms
Confirms	Further requests	Strongly condemns
Considers	Further resolves	Supports
Deplores	Has resolved	Takes note of
Draws attention	Notes	Trusts

Resolution Structure

1. **Heading:**
   a. The heading should include the following information below in this order
      i. Name of the organ
      ii. Name of the resolution
      iii. List of the sponsors
      iv. List of the signatories
2. **Preambulatory Clauses:**
   a. This should include 3-4 clauses using the preamble phrases mentioned earlier which describe the issue at hand.
3. **Operative Clauses:**
   a. This should include several clauses using the operative phrases mentioned earlier which provide solutions to the issues being discussed in committee. Remember, quality trumps quantity when it comes to adding clauses.

On the following pages is a sample resolution that incorporates some of the points discussed earlier. The resolution was crafted in a committee simulating the World Bank, which sought to craft a new strategy to reach the Millennium Development Goals (MDG).

EXAMPLE RESOLUTION
Economic & Social Councils
Draft Resolution: Triple-P Partnership
Sponsors: Israel, Italy, United Kingdom
Signatories: Chile, France, India, Japan, Jordan, Netherlands, United States

The World Bank,

Deeply concerned by projections of the international community of the inability of the accomplishment of the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by the established deadline of 2015,

Recognizing that the Least Developed Countries, a majority of which are located in Sub Saharan Africa have the greatest difficulty in meeting the MDG targets and recognizes their inability to invest in growth oriented strategies as a result of incurring "unsustainable debt levels,"

Disturbed by the alarming fact that 105 countries of the 144 monitored are not expected to reach MDG 4 and 95 are off track for MDG 5,

1. <u>Recommends</u> the increase of infrastructure investment while maintaining a policy framework that includes:
   a. Transparency of where all aid is going,
   b. Anti-corruption initiatives that are specific to the nation's needs,
   c. Updates on the use of aid,
   d. Monitoring on the level of transparency;

2. <u>Suggests</u> the implementation of United Nations Monitors in conjunction with any sovereign nation struggling with accomplishing the eight Millennium Development Goals to supplement a government;

3. <u>Further suggests</u> the comprehensive reports on the situation of each individual nation for the purpose of:
   a. Ensuring aid transparency,
   b. Ensuring the protection of rights of every global citizen on the UN standards of human rights,
   c. Understanding each nation's individual need,
   d. Ensuring adequate progress of the MDGs,
   e. Tracking development and economic growth;

4. <u>Suggests</u> the establishment of a growth model for nations to follow given the direct relation between economic growth and reaching the Millennium Development Goals (MDGs) by encouraging sovereign nations to implement their own region-based like programs that are non discriminatory towards any citizen and comply with the needs of their nation as a whole, with the use of the African Action Plan or Israel's PICT as a model;

5. <u>Strongly recommends</u> the reevaluation of the feasibility in reaching the MDGs by 2015 and the creation of a realistic timeline extension for those goals which will not be achievable within the set time frame;

6. <u>Recommends</u> that the World Trade Organization (WTO) push forward with the Doha Development Round by temporarily dropping the suggestion by the Doha Development Agenda (DDA) of cutting Agricultural subsidies;

7. <u>Further recommends</u> that the Doha Development Round establish a timeline to address at least six of its original 21 issues within the next year;

8. <u>Recommends</u> the implementation of micro-enterprises as necessary tools for eradicating poverty by:
    a. Allowing for new opportunities for self-employment,
    b. Establishing a support system for small business development in underdeveloped nations,
    c. Encouraging the goals of the Global Jobs Pact and working in conjunction with this pact;

9. <u>Encourages</u> equal opportunities for women in the developing world and advancing their political stance by promoting governmental measures that would free women in developing world nations from time intensive tasks such as carrying water through:
    a. The use of loans to establish government programs aimed at providing clean well water or water pumps to tap deep lying water tables, which would free up time for women to pursue more educational or economically productive activities,
    b. The establishment of comprehensive day-time primary education programs,
    c. Basic health awareness and prevention program aimed at educating women in developing nations about common preventable diseases as well as cures that can be made locally;

10. <u>Strongly urges</u> the expansion of educational programs targeting women and children in preventative health techniques, such as the importance of mosquito nets, the use of anesthetic in childbirth, and cleanliness standards;

11. <u>Resolves</u> to remain actively seized in the matter.

Chapter 6
Crisis Committees (Small Committees): The Course of Debate

Crisis committees can be very different in terms of debate process when compared to GAs and ECOSOCs. Crisis committees are not nearly as regulated by parliamentary procedure as GAs and ECOSOCs, although they do follow similar language while debating. The timeline of these committees are often contingent on the crisis situations facing the committee. Below is a rough outline of how crisis committees often proceed:

Similar to GAs and ECOSOCs, a **roll call** is taken at the beginning of each session. When your position is called on, you can either vote as "present" or "present and voting", the latter of which will require you to vote "yes" or "no" in any subsequent votes. It is important to note that you MUST attend each committee session in order to be considered for an award, barring extenuating circumstances like illness or travel delays. If you plan on missing a session, contact your Chair via email which can be found on your committee's page on the NAIMUN website as soon as possible.

During the first committee session, however, there is no speaker's list. Instead, delegates are encouraged to motion for a **moderated caucus** to discuss goals and topics for the committee's general direction. Sometimes, the Chair may favor a **round robin**, a variation of a moderated caucus where every delegate is offered an opportunity to speak for a set amount of time.

Opening speeches and opening moderated caucuses become opportunities for the delegates to convey their knowledge of the topic, speech giving capabilities, or leadership presence to the committee. You should use this chance to express your goals for the committee's general direction and to understand the goals of other delegates.

Crisis committees have three debate styles: moderated and unmoderated caucuses, similar to GA and ECOSOC committees, and round robins. You can find information about moderated and unmoderated caucuses in "GAs and ECOSOCs: The Course of Debate." While round robins are a style of debate available to delegates, committees should only use round robins as a starting point to understand the positions of other delegates in committee.

Unlike a GA or ECOSOC, crisis committees do not vote on exclusively debating one topic. Instead, delegates will debate the many topics discussed in the background guide, along with **crisis updates** that are introduced to the committee. A crisis update is an unplanned "crisis" that delegates must resolve through debate and directives. Some crisis managers elect to start a committee off with a crisis update; so, delegates should be prepared to debate any topic that is relevant to the committee.

Crisis updates cause debate to quickly become more substantive, as delegates will often seek a moderated caucus to discuss possible solutions to the crisis at hand. During such caucuses, delegates may write and submit **directives**. Directives are the crisis committee equivalent of a resolution. Directives are the action the committee will collectively take to answer the crisis. Delegates can also motion for an unmoderated caucus to collaboratively craft directives. Once directives are submitted, the committee may seek a moderated caucus to discuss each directive or an unmoderated caucus to consolidate and merge similar directives (often at the discretion of the Chair) or a variant of a moderated caucus to expedite the discussion process.
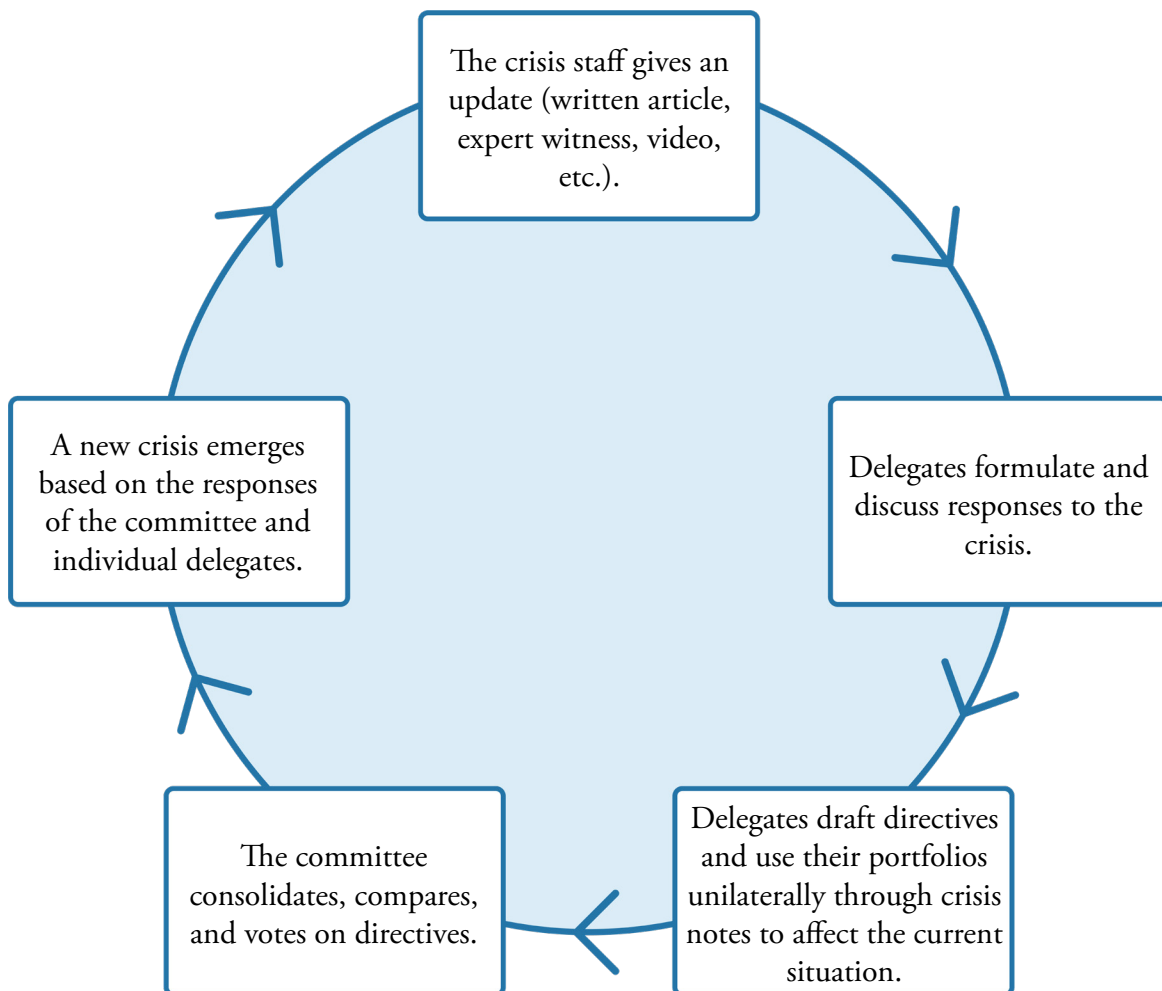
Once debate concludes, delegates will motion to introduce and vote on the directives on the dais. **Directives typically require 20% + 1 of the committee to sign on as signatories or sponsors**. When **introducing a directive**, the Chair will read or allow a sponsor to read the respective directive on the dais. If

the original motion was only to introduce the directive, delegates may motion for a moderated or unmoderated caucus to discuss directives, or delegates may introduce amendments to directives.

Once the committee enters into voting procedure, similar to GAs and ECOSOCs, the room is locked and amendments are no longer accepted. A directive needs the majority of the committee's YES votes to pass; bear in mind delegates may vote "Yes", "No", or "Abstaining." However, abstentions do not change the required votes for a simple majority and can only be used by delegates who answered "Present," as opposed to "Present and Voting," when the roll was taken at the start of the committee session. Afterwards, the process essentially repeats itself, though as the committee progresses the crisis updates often become more dire and require faster responses from the committee.

At the same time, crisis delegates will interact with the out of room crisis staff through what are known as **crisis notes**. These will be explained further in the next chapter, but essentially serve as a way for delegates to utilize their individual **portfolio powers** in order to shape the outcome of the committee. Delegates will write notes to someone outside of the committee, and create scenarios that can potentially affect everyone in the committee through new crisis updates.

Because Crisis committees evolve largely based on the actions of delegates or the crisis generated by the Crisis staff, the debate process can take on numerous variants. While GA-style committees will usually only cover one topic, crisis committees will discuss several considering the fast-paced environment. Hopefully, you have a clearer picture of how crisis committees *generally* evolve over the course of the conference. The image below illustrates the general life cycle of a crisis committee.

The crisis staff gives an update (written article, expert witness, video, etc.).

Delegates formulate and discuss responses to the crisis.

Delegates draft directives and use their portfolios unilaterally through crisis notes to affect the current situation.

The committee consolidates, compares, and votes on directives.

A new crisis emerges based on the responses of the committee and individual delegates.

Chapter 7
Crisis Committees (Small Committees): Documents

One of the most important documents found in crisis committees are directives. **Directives** embody the collective decision of the committee in confronting a specific crisis. Directives can either be submitted individually by delegates or by a group of delegates, usually at the discretion of the Chair. Directives typically require 20% + 1 of the committee to sign on as signatories or sponsors. Some Chairs will ask for this minimum number of signatories and sponsors before a directive can be introduced, while others are more liberal in terms of regulating directive introductions. Your Chair should clarify this during the first committee session, but do not hesitate to ask yourself if there is any confusion.

Unlike GAs/ECOSOCs resolutions that answer far broader geopolitical issues, directives seek only to address a specific crisis. Directives can be incredibly brief or pages long, depending on how detailed delegates seek to be as well as whether or not groups have merged directives. Often, directives give a brief outline of the action the committee wishes to take, though Chairs and CMs look favorably upon some specificity in directives. Directives usually require a simple majority to pass committee and are subject to both friendly and unfriendly amendments.

Directives are a key element of the competitive side of debate. Staffers often consider who has taken the lead on directive initiatives over the course of committee, and it is highly recommended that delegates prioritize the crafting of directives over all else. A common mistake delegates make is focusing solely on executing portfolio powers through crisis notes and forgetting about directives; rather, crisis notes should be a supplement to writing directives.

Below is a sample directive that will hopefully elucidate some of the concepts earlier discussed. We've also created a mock-crisis scenario to put the directive in context:

Committee: John F. Kennedy's National Security Council during the Cuban Missile Crisis

Scenario: President Kennedy has just been informed that the CIA has gathered images of Soviet missile installations at San Cristóbal, NW Cuba. After a moderated caucus on how to initially respond to this new threat, Secretary of Defense Robert McNamara submits this proposed directive.

A relatively short directive, it still takes the preliminary steps needed to advance the committee. Delegates, especially in historical committees, might be tempted to try "magic bullet" solutions for the entire topic at hand (in this situation, such a directive may call for the naval blockade that ended the Missile Crisis). Such directives will generally fail if not given proper context and might even harm the committee. Generally, committee action should be incremental and gradual. The directive above manages to maintain brevity while providing enough detail for the Crisis Manager to generate a more positive response for the committee. Both the Chair and Crisis Manager will favor concise, but organized directives that have a measure of detail.

Beyond directives, another crucial document in crisis committees are **crisis notes**. Crisis notes are notes sent to the crisis staff on behalf of the delegate in an attempt to undertake a unilateral action. Essentially, think of crisis notes as letters that you can send to the outside world, to people, not in the committee. A delegate can use these notes to either generate new scenarios for the committee, which can be presented in the form of crisis updates, or to alter the dynamics of the "crisis world" in order to increase one's leverage in the room or to solve the crisis scenario on their own. Delegates must be careful to undertake action that is within the purview of their character's **portfolio powers**, or the actions and powers available to a delegate based on their position. For example, the US Secretary of Defense cannot unilaterally alter interest rates; rather, he can SUGGEST to the committee to undertake this action. However, the Secretary of Defense *could* undertake actions that involve the Pentagon, the institution he controls.

On the following page is a sample crisis note that will demonstrate some of the points previously mentioned. The committee is John F. Kennedy's National Security Council during the Cuban Missile Crisis. The scenario is as follows: President Kennedy has just been informed that the CIA has gathered images of Soviet missile installations at San Cristóbal, NW Cuba. The delegate representing CIA Director John McCone decides to take matters into his own hands. In an attempt to distract the Soviets, he decides to undertake operations in East Berlin. He/She hopes to use the CIA sabotage, a portfolio power, to achieve his/her objective.

EXAMPLE CRISIS NOTE
From: John McCone, CIA Director
To: Joe Robinson, my personal secretary
Objective: Suspicious of KGB involvement in Cuba, look to distract the KGB by attacking their assets in East Berlin

· Direct CIA assets in East Berlin to begin compiling a list of known KGB assets in the area

· Covert ops assets, armed with silenced compact submachine guns, will look to track and take down at least 5 KGB agents.

This particular note is strong in some aspects but weak in others. Crisis notes that state their objective clearly tend to help guide the delegate in crafting his/her note, but also help the Crisis Staff understand what exactly the delegate wants to achieve. However, the note lacks a few details that could undermine the Director's action. For example, what if the agents are "made" by the KGB? Is there any plan to protect the agents in case the operation backfires? The overall logic behind the note leaves it open to risk as well: though Crisis Staff may allow this note to succeed, would it really make a difference if the KGB lost five agents in East Berlin? Would that really undermine or distract them from their operations in Cuba? **Delegates should always ask themselves if the note they are sending in will make a difference in committee.** The notes that are detailed and well-planned can successfully push the committee in a new direction.

Delegates also have the opportunity to communicate to other members of the committee through **communiques** and **press releases**:

Communiques

Communiques are the means by which delegates can communicate with entities that do not exist inside the committee room itself. For example, if the US Ambassador to the UN were sitting in a White House meeting (committee) and wanted to reach out to the Ambassador of Israel, he/she could do so by sending the "Israeli Ambassador" a communique. Those outside entities are controlled and played by the Crisis Staff. Communiques are excellent ways to set up meetings outside the room.

Press Releases

Press Releases, meanwhile, are the means by which delegates can let the world know via news outlets (the press) what they or the committee itself is up to. If the delegate wishes to submit a press release regarding the committee as a whole, that press release must be passed by the committee, similar to a directive. The delegate can submit his/her own press release if it focuses on their specific position or actions in committee. Press Releases aren't always useful, and are usually superfluous in committee. However, they can be used to quickly disseminate information on a mass scale, which can prove valuable in some crisis scenarios.

Chapter 8
Tips to Compete and Succeed in Model UN

Thus far, we have discussed many of the rules and regulations that govern Model UN in order to grant you a better understanding of the flow of debate. Understanding the rules, however, is not enough to compete successfully at NAIMUN, or any conference for that matter. We hope that the next section will offer you potential ideas, tactics, and general advice on how to compete successfully in Model UN.

General Decorum

As cosmetic as it at first may sound, general decorum can go a long way in presenting oneself as a capable delegate. Delegates should, by rule, dress in Western Business Attire (WBA), and are advised to dress sharply. Outside of this, delegates should always be polite in their interaction with both members of the Dais and other delegates. Rude, boisterous, or combative delegates will not only make enemies of the Chair, but those delegates can and often have found themselves alienated from other delegates.

Speeches

Speeches may very well be the most important means of presenting oneself as a competent, capable delegate. It is the one chance you as a delegate get to interact with the entire committee. Below are some tips to keep in mind when giving speeches:

- Nothing can be more intimidating than giving an improvised speech to a room of over two hundred delegates. When faced with a large crowd, pick out five or six faces in the room, and make eye contact with only those delegates as you give the speech. The room will seem a lot smaller!
- It's difficult to write speeches before giving them. Debate can move quickly, and attempting to pre-write speeches will only result in you falling woefully behind. Rather, keep up with the course of debate and develop your opening and closing remarks in your head well before you give your speech. Once you have a general idea of how you plan to begin and end your speech, it is far easier to improvise.

Essentially, prepare a *brief* mental outline of your speech before you approach the podium.

Caucusing

If speech-giving is the best way to gain credibility in the room and to present one's argument, caucusing is the primary means of gaining votes and building blocs and coalitions to garner those votes. The first unmoderated caucus is often incredibly chaotic. Before that first unmoderated caucus, it is advisable to promote your position in your primary speech and to inform the delegates where you will be in the room if anyone seeks to work with you during the unmoderated caucus. When you first meet with interested delegates, it should not come as a complete surprise if some of the delegates drift off to work with other groups. Of course, try to convince the delegates to work with you throughout the duration of the committee, but you will know who you can work with after that first caucus.

Another way to build a coalition is to move from group to group and listen to the dialogue in each group. Generally, there will be delegates on the peripheries of these groups that are being left out of the conversation. Bring them into yours by offering to work with them. Politely and convincingly presenting your position is a sure way to build a bloc.

The second unmoderated caucus is another opportunity to strengthen or realign your coalition. Subsequent caucuses should be used to begin writing working papers. Don't be afraid to have members of your coalition go off and bring other delegates into your group. In other words, divide up the tasks; for example, have some members of your bloc work on writing the working paper and assign others to bring in delegates to your side.

Even if you are in a crisis committee, caucusing is still extremely important. While crisis committees don't require delegates to build a strong bloc to produce a resolution, delegates will still have to work with others to help garner support to pass directives. In crisis committees, you won't necessarily be working with the same people on every directive, so get to know your fellow delegates to keep your options as flexible as possible.

Note Passing in Committee

While moderated and unmoderated caucuses are a great way to share your views on a topic, passing notes to other delegates in committee is another way to form partnerships. Bring some post-it notes or use pages from your notepad to send messages to other delegates. If you notice you share a view with another delegate, send a note discussing working together or meeting during the next unmoderated caucus. Notes are a great way to still communicate with the rest of the committee, even while stuck sitting in your seat. Remember that notes should only be used for communicating substantive information relevant to and appropriate for the committee.

Documents

Resolutions can often be long and convoluted documents. Be the delegate that offers clear, concise clauses that get your points across. Better yet, offer something unique to the resolution. Unique, creative policy solutions are perhaps the best way to distinguish yourself from the rest of the committee.

In crisis committees, on the other hand, directives are usually quick and concise measures taken to answer a single crisis. Don't over complicate the matter at hand. However, creative solutions that display one's understanding of the situation will certainly help one's standing with both the committee and the Chair. Take the initiative in writing directives!

Last, crisis notes can be excellent tools to refocusing debates and aligning the circumstances of the crisis in one's favor. Attention to details in enacting portfolio powers will often generate a more positive response from the Crisis staff. For example, if you are looking to move troops somewhere, elaborate on details such as how many troops or how will they be armed. Crisis Managers will recognize skilled delegates through these details. It is also a good idea to clearly state the objective of what you are trying to achieve through your crisis note. It helps guide the Crisis Staff's feedback, but also helps keep your note focused and grounded.

Chapter 9
MUN Glossary

Communique: Communiques are the means by which delegates can communicate with entities that do not exist inside the committee room itself. A communique is introduced to the dais similar to a directive and requires a simple majority to pass.

Crisis Committees: Crisis committees are markedly different from both GAs and ECOSOCs, tending to focus on specific issues, geographic areas, and historical periods. Crisis committees also have the distinguishing characteristic of portfolio powers, where delegates have and can use individual powers that are part of their bio in order to shape the "world" they interact in. Crisis committees also include crisis updates, which are unplanned "crises" that delegates must resolve through debate and directives.

Crisis Note: These are a series of notes that an individual can send to the crisis staff on behalf in an attempt to undertake a unilateral action that may develop their personal crisis arc and shape the outcome of the committee. More on a crisis note's content and structure can be found in Chapter 7 of this guide.

Crisis Update: An event where the crisis team gives new information and planned "crises" that the delegates in the room must face and resolve.

Directive: Directives are the crisis committee equivalent of a resolution. These are written in response to the topics discussed in committee as well as the crisis updates created by the crisis team. Directives are passed by simple majority. More on a directive's content and structure can be found in Chapter 7 of this guide.

Friendly Amendments: An amendment, generally speaking, changes a resolution by adding, striking out, or revising the text of a draft resolution. Amendments are offered primarily between when working papers are introduced and when they are voted upon. However, delegates can offer amendments during the caucusing process and the writing of the working paper. Once all sponsors agree to the amendment, the amendment is submitted to the Chair, read aloud, and is incorporated into the overall working paper/draft resolution.

General Assembly (GA): GAs are the largest committees found at any Model UN conference, and generally simulate actual United Nations General Assembly Committees, such as the Committee for Disarmament and International Security (DISEC). In these large committees, all countries are represented, and they focus on two specific policy issues that the delegates must craft a resolution to address.

Moderated Caucus: A regulated, time-limited debate focusing on a specific aspect of the topic at hand, from addressing a certain crisis to discussion of a working paper. To motion for such a caucus, the delegate must state the time allocated for the caucus, the speaking time per speaker, and the topic the delegate wishes to see discussed. A simple majority is required to pass the motion, and the delegate who originally submitted the motion is the first to speak in the moderated caucus if it was his/her motion that passed.

Operative Clause: A clause in a resolution that outlines specific recommendations for resolving the problem. All operative clauses include underlined and numbered operative phrases.

Point of Order: Where a delegate seeks to draw attention to a possible procedural error made by a fellow delegate or the Chair.

Point of Parliamentary Inquiry: An inquiry regarding the rules regulating debate.

Point of Personal Privilege: Where a member experiences personal discomfort that interferes with his/her ability to participate in debate; the Chair will work to alleviate the situation.

Portfolio Powers: The actions and powers available to a delegate based on their position. For example, the Secretary of Defense could undertake actions that involve the Pentagon, the institution he controls.

Position Paper: A paper that represents the view of your state or position on the particular issues your council is addressing. Any delegate who does not submit a position paper will be ineligible to receive an award. Position papers must be submitted by the end of the first committee session (Thursday night). More on a position paper's content and structure can be found in Chapter 3 of this guide.

Preambulatory Clause: A clause in a resolution that recounts the problem and previous actions taken. All preambulatory clauses include italicized preambulatory phrases.

Press Release: Press releases are the means by which delegates can let the world know via news outlets (the press) what they or the committee itself is up to. This will be implemented by the crisis staff. A press release is introduced to the dais similar to a directive and requires a simple majority to pass.

Resolutions: The final product of a GA and ECOSOC, resolutions are passed by simple majority. Resolutions often offer broad, comprehensive solutions to the problem being discussed. More on a resolution's content and structure can be found in Chapter 5 of this guide.

Right of Reply: A member of the committee may respond to a snide speech or comment at the Chair's discretion. The Chair's decision on granting this right is final and cannot be responded to with another Right of Reply. Please note that attacks on one's policy stance does *not* warrant a right of reply.

Roll Call: This is when attendance is taken at the beginning of each session. When your position is called on, you can either vote as "present" or "present and voting", the latter of which will require you to vote "yes" or "no" in any subsequent votes.

Round Robin: A variation of a moderated caucus where every delegate is offered an opportunity to speak for a set amount of time about the topic selected. Typically, the dais will prefer moderated caucuses over round robins. A simple majority is required to pass the motion.

Signatories: A signatory to a resolution is a delegate that signs a resolution or directive to indicate that delegate's interest in hearing the working paper or directive presented to the committee. It does not, however, indicate the delegate necessarily supports the document.

Speaker's List: Generally found in GAs and ECOSOCs, the Speakers List is, quite literally, a running list of nations/persons that wish to speak. Speakers Lists are opened at the beginning of committees, and give the delegates the opportunity to speak freely about the topics to be discussed by the committee for the duration of the conference. Speakers List speeches generally last 30 to 45 seconds, and the speech continues until a delegate either motions to close the Speakers List or motions for a moderated caucus. To be placed on the Speakers List, a delegate needs only raise the placard and continue to do so until the Chair places that delegate on the list. Delegates generally get to speak only once during the existence of the opening Speakers List, but can attempt to get their name back on the list if the Chair either reopens the list or if the delegate sends a note to the Dais asking to be placed on the list.

Sponsors: A sponsor to a resolution is usually an original writer or a delegate who strongly supports the working paper or directive. In most GAs and crisis committees, one-fifth of the committee's signatures (sponsors and signatories combined) are required in order to present a working paper to the committee, though the amount of sponsors necessary can be left to the discretion of the Chair. Delegates are advised to pay attention to the benchmarks set by the Chair in order to present a working paper.

Unfriendly Amendments: An amendment that is not agreed upon by all sponsors of a resolution. Thus, an unfriendly amendment requires signatures of one-fifth of the committee before it can be submitted to the Dais. Unfriendly amendments, once submitted, are voted upon at the close of debate on the amendments' respective resolutions and then voted upon in the order of their submission. An unfriendly amendment requires two-thirds of the committee vote to pass. If passed, it is automatically incorporated into the draft resolution. These amendments cannot be amended.

Unmoderated Caucus: A time-constrained but unregulated debate. During unmoderated caucus, delegates are free to move about (or outside) the room and discuss the topic of the unmoderated caucus. Unmoderated caucuses are often used to build coalitions for resolution-writing, merge working papers, or craft directives (in crisis committees.) To motion for an unmoderated caucus, the delegate must state the desired allocated time. No topic is required. A simple majority is required for such a motion to pass.

Working Papers: The goal of any GA and ECOSOC is to produce a resolution that answers the topic being discussed and debated. However, potential resolutions crafted by the delegates are known as "working papers" until they are submitted to the Chair and presented to the committee. Once these benchmarks are met, the working paper is termed a "draft resolution".

Closing Remarks

We hope that this has helped you in your preparation not only for this conference, but for future competition in both high school and college Model United Nations. While this guide provides the basics to various aspects of Model United Nations, one cannot simply learn how to compete in MUN just through this guide. Becoming a competitive and successful delegate takes continued competition and practice. Don't expect for everything to be perfect during your first conference experience, just like with any other skill.

So perhaps the best advice we can give: take every opportunity to become a better delegate. Attend as many conferences as you can, review all the resources that we at NAIMUN and other conferences have made available, and try your best. If your school offers mock-committee sessions or any opportunities to practice, take them. We guarantee that with practice you will not only become a better delegate, but will enjoy Model UN even more. Regardless, Model UN is something you should do because you enjoy it. That enjoyment may come from competition or just getting to meet some new friends during the weekend. So don't stress too much; just be prepared to discuss and debate at NAIMUN. We look forward to welcoming you to Washington D.C. in February!

The content of this training guide was last updated by the Secretariat of NAIMUN LVIII.

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